

Message Text

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64

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CG-00 DLOS-06 IO-14 SAJ-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /146 W
----- 014320

P 181720Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4057

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION NATO

COMICEDEFOR PRIORITY

CINCLANT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 1235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR IC UK

SUBJECT: ICELAND-UK FISHERIES DISPUTE

REF: REYKJAVIK 1232

1. WE HAVE LEARNED IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE THAT
PRIMIN JOHANNESSON THIS AFTERNOON TOLD ALTHING FOREIGN
RELATIONS CMTE THAT HE INTENDS TO MAKE AGREEMENT WITH BRITISH
AS DISCUSSED IN LONDON. HE HAS ALSO TOLD COMMUNIST PEOPLE'S
ALLIANCE, WHICH THIS MORNING INITIATED NEWSPAPER CAMPAIGN
CALLING FOR REJECTION OF BRITISH PROPOSAL, THAT THEY WILL HAVE UN-
TIL THIS WEEKEND TO EITHER CONCUR OR LEAVE THE GOVT. INFORMANT
ADVISED US THAT PRIMIN WILL ASK SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND INDE-
PENDENCE PARTIES TO JOIN GOVT IF PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE CHOOSES
TO LEAVE. INFORMANT ADVISES THAT IN SHOWDOWN PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE
WILL REMAIN IN GOVT AND RATIONALIZE TO ITS MEMBERS THAT NECESSARY
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TO DO SO IN ORDER TO FIGHT AGAINST RETENTION OF THE NATO BASE IN

ICELAND.

2. COMMENT: PRIMIN'S STAND IS A FAVORABLE BREAK FOR US AS WELL
AS FOR BRITISH. EVEN IF PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE CHOOSES
TO REMAIN IN GOVT, THE ULTIMATUM OF THE PRIMIN WILL STRENGTHEN
HIS HAND WHEN IT COMES TO THE BASE ISSUE AND MIGHT GIVE SOME
BACKBONE TO FONMIN AGUSTSSON AS WELL.
IRVING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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